

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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11

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-11 EUR-25 EA-11 ADP-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-09

H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

AID-20 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12

CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 STR-08 SCEM-02 INT-08

RSR-01 /205 W

----- 056088

O R 280550 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2079

INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

AMEMBASSY QUITO

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMCONSUL DHAHRAIN

USINT ALGIERS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

CONFIDENTIAL TEHRAN 2889

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG

SUBJECT: IRANIAN REACTION TO PRESIDENT'S ENERGY MESSAGE

1. REACTION FROM KNOWLEDGEABLE GOI OFFICIALS TO PRESIDENT'S

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ENERGY MESSAGE HAS BEEN SLOW IN FILTERING BACK TO US BECAUSE

OF IRANIAN PREOCCUPATION WITH GOI- CONSORTIUM NEGOTIATIONS AND OPEC CURRENCY REVALUATION TALKS. IN GENERAL, NIOC OFFICIALS HAVE CHARACTERIZED MESSAGE AS OVERDUE PRAGMATIC RESPONSE TO REALITIES OF AMERICAN ENERGY SITUATION. THEY ARE PARTICULARLY GRATIFIED BY LIFTING OF IMPORT RESTRICTIONS WHICH THEY SEE AS PROVIDING NEW OPPORTUNITY FOR SALES IRANIAN CRUDE IN U. S. FOR SIMILAR REASON, THEY ALSO WELCOMED APPARENT REDUCTION OF QUOTE WESTERN HEMISPHERE PREFERENCE. UNQUOTE.

2. TAQI MOSSADEGHI, GENERAL MANAGING DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL IRANIAN GAS COMPANY EXPRESSED MILD CONCERN THAT MESSAGE DID NOT SPECIFICALLY REFER TO IMPORTS OF NATURAL GAS AND DID NOT INCLUDE SUCH IMPORTS IN RELAXATION OF PRICES ON GAS. HIS REACTIONS OTHERWISE WERE THE SAME AS THOS OF HIS COLLEAGUES IN NIOC.

3. IRANIAN OFFICIALS CONCERNED WITH PETROLEUM MATTERS ARE LARGEY U. S. EDUCATED OR OTHERWISE HAVE QUITE ACCURATE FEELING FOR DOMESTIC POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT OF U. S. OIL AND GAS INDUSTRY THROUGH LONG EXPERIENCE WITH U. S. OIL COMPANIES. ACCORDINGLY THEY HAVE FOUND ENERGY MESSAGE UNSURPRISING AND SENSIBLE. EMBASSY HAS NOT HAD CHANCE CONFER WITH MINISTRY OF FINANCE OFFICIALS WHO HAVE BEEN AWAY AT OPEC MEETINGS. WILL REPORT THEIR VIEWS SEPTEL ASAP.

HELMs

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NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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TAGS: ENRG, IR
To: CARACAS
JAKARTA
JIDDA
KUWAIT
LAGOS
LIMA
LONDON

NEA
SECSTATE WASHDC
Type: TE

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